Attorney Docket No. Implex-18/ZM0718

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED CENTRAL FAX CENTER

In Re Patent Application of:

Robie, èt al.

Group Art Unit: 3732

APR 2 9 2005

Serial No.: 10/015,365

Examiner: Melson, Candice C.

Filing Date: December 13, 2001

Atty Dkt.: Implex-18/ZM0718

Instrument and System for Preparing the Disc Space

Date: April 29, 2005

Between Two Vertebral Bodies

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Va. 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE AFTER FINAL REJECTION

Dear Sir:

This paper is responsive to the Office Action dated December 29, 2004. A petition and fee for a one month extension of time to extend the response date to April 29, 2005 is included herewith. Kindly enter the following amendments:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 11 of this paper.